

Board of Selectmen
June 24, 2015
Police Station Community Room

The Board of Selectmen attended the meeting of the DPW Commissioners on Wed., June 24, 2015 at 7pm in the Community Room at the Police Station, present were all five Selectpersons.

MBTA Electrical Upgrades Project: Board of Selectmen Chairperson Battistelli said DPW Commissioner Gardner has shared his concerns relative to this project. She said we share the concern of access to the field and its history with the scaled down project that we believe is fully funded. The MBTA is planning to do what they plan to do but maybe there is something that can be written into the easements to accommodate the interests of the town. Easements are initiated by the Board of Selectmen and town meeting needs to vote on them. Commissioner Gardner provided a little background on the issue. He said a plan cleaned up the access to Evan's Field, improved parking and some drainage concerns were addressed with some town input. That plan was abandoned by the MBTA due to costs. The MBTA came up with its own plan and is moving forward with it. The concern is that once they do that work (they don't intend to move any tracks), they will have invested in putting the conduits in, but the concern is the track that is in front of Ace Hardware; that track is on Ace Hardware property. The MBTA took an easement from Ace Hardware. People have to walk on Ace Property and in front of the locomotive to get to the field. Selectperson Battistelli said our leverage is the easements. DPW Chairman Sena said they are on an easement on Ace Hardware, we need to check with town counsel. Their easement is to the end of the tie, the 15' easement we'd have to look at what they can and can't do. Selectperson Sheedy asked why not ask Ace Hardware for the easement. Selectperson Wilkinson said we need Town Counsel to review the easement. She said at the meeting in Boston it was hinted that we should be thankful for what we have; they could impose further safety regulations. Commissioner Reed said our own DPW crews cross over to get to the field. He questioned if a roadway could be put in there to walk across; we lose a lot of access if the substation is put in. Selectperson Battistelli said the scaled down plan does not preclude the movement of those tracks if funding is ever available. DPW Commissioner Reed said the only access to that park is Evan's Way for ambulances, etc. Maybe we look at acquiring some property down that end to gain access. He said if we're going to talk to Ace, we need to look at the other end with the private ownership. Selectperson Battistelli said she will go to Legal Counsel regarding easements and language in any easement.

Plowing Private Roads: It was stated that Board of Selectmen Chair Battistelli, DPW Commissioner Reed, and Selectperson Sheedy took a tour of the private roads. DPW Chairman Sena suggested we should develop all new criteria and start fresh. Selectperson Sheedy said we should have an objective standard and be definitive. Selectperson Wilkinson said the length of the road and number of houses on the road seems to work well and it has to be a laid out road. If we take the list (about 50% are being plowed) and apply the criteria, less than 1/2 would be taken off. We would need other criteria to be sure if it's logistically possible for the DPW to plow. Commissioner Gardner said they need someplace to put the snow; do we mean to exclude roads where there is no room for the snow. Selectperson Wilkinson said how about if the resident at the end signs a waiver to allow the DPW to put snow there. It was decided that we need to

consult with D. Greel to determine what is practical. DPW Commissioner Chairman Sena said we will need to consider future buildable lots in the criteria. It was decided that a few Selectboard members will meet with D. Greel to review the roads, then bring the concerning roads back to another meeting. Selectperson Wilkinson said we will have public hearings when the decisions are made so people can make arrangements for plowing.

Green Community Update: Commissioner Reed said he is putting something on the Rockport page to get volunteers for this initiative; it is on the Board of Selectmen agenda for 7/14/15; invitations went out to the Planning Board, School Supt, and the Chief of Police.

Sediment Transport Study Next Steps: The June 8, 2015 presentation by Applied Coastal was discussed. Commissioner Reed said we need to put a plan together with the intent of going forward. We need to understand the permitting issues, the costs, etc. Then we will eventually need to go to Town Meeting to see how residents feel about moving forward. We need to know what it is going to take to do this, including the costs. Director Parisi said if we go the full nourishment and seawall repair and do it all we need to look at the costs. We can look at grant funding as well for seawalls. Selectperson Battistelli said we need to meet with regulatory people to review the various options revealed in the study. Selectperson Sheedy said other communities, Winthrop, Marshfield and Revere have gone this route. T. Olson said meeting with CZM is a good idea and with an engineer as well to bring ideas and comprehend what CZM is saying and what the design criteria and limitations might be. Director Parisi said there are funds available for a few meetings with an engineer/consultant to develop plans going forward.

DPW Facility Improvements: Director Parisi said the recommendation is to replace the DPW barn. We need to move forward and get that on a schedule. Asst. Town Administrator, M. Vieira, said the building study report recommended that as well. Director Parisi said we've had some preliminary designs on a replacement building; we need to look into funding and finalize the design.

Selectboard Chairperson Battistelli said she'd like to add an item to tonight's agenda. Selectperson Wilkinson moved to add a vote on undersea divers, seconded by Selectperson Lucas, Vote: 5-0.

Selectperson Wilkinson moved that permission is hereby granted to Undersea Divers, 42 Water Street, Beverly, for conducting scuba diving on June 27 and June 28, 2015 from 7am to 12pm on Back Beach, the number of people is ten, seconded by Selectperson Lucas, Vote: 5-0.

DPW Director Parisi stated that the Board may want to designate someone to approve these because the turnaround time is tight and we can't wait always wait for the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

Selectperson Murphy said he spoke to the Chief of Police and the chief is going to have his officers patrol the beaches and divers.